



## Blacks In Government ®

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www.bignet.org

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Region I

Jacquelyn D. Allen  
Daniel Corria

#### Region II

Gwendolyn Townsend  
Esther Seabrook

#### Region III

Regina D. Kennedy, *Vice Chair*  
Dr. Lynwood A. Townsend

#### Region IV

Honorable Mary D. Peoples  
Honorable Anthony Rhodes

#### Region V

Deena Sheppard  
Honorable Lillian Barnett

#### Region VI

Honorable B. Faye Stewart  
Katherine Cage

#### Region VII

Delores Ivy  
Tracey C. Bradford

#### Region VIII

Audrey McCray  
Honorable Gary Blackmon

#### Region IX

Sheila B. Johnson  
Kenneth C. Pearson

#### Region X

Cheryl Peterson  
Patricia Brooks Ly

#### Region XI

Honorable Darlene H. Young, *Chair*  
Glynis M. Hill

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### National President

Honorable Dr. Doris P. Sartor

#### National Executive Vice-President

Shirley A. Jones, Esquire

#### National 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President

Jesse Sharpe

#### National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President

Dr. Matthew Fogg

#### National 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President

Dr. Deborah A. McClanahan

#### National Secretary

Sandra F. Glenn

#### National Corresponding Secretary

Paula E. Davis

#### National Treasurer

Honorable Norma Samuel

#### National Assistant Treasurer

Rochelle Bryant

#### National Immediate Past President

Honorable Darlene H. Young

June 27, 2018

### MEMORANDUM FOR BIG REGIONAL COUNCIL AND CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

FROM: Ms. Sandra F. Glenn, National Secretary

THRU: Honorable Dr. Doris P. Sartor, National President

SUBJECT: Review of the Draft 2017 National Delegates Assembly Meeting Minutes

The draft copy of the National Delegates Assembly Meeting Minutes, dated August 20, 2017, is enclosed for each region and chapter's review. Please review the minutes and provide any corrections and/or changes to Sandra F. Glenn, National Secretary, at [sfglenn2@gmail.com](mailto:sfglenn2@gmail.com) by Friday, August 3, 2018. All corrections and/or changes will be consolidated and presented during the 2018 National Delegates Assembly in New Orleans, Louisiana, for approval.

If you have any questions, please feel to contact Ms. Glenn at the above email address. As always, THANKS for making a BIG difference.

### Attachment

2017 National Delegates Assembly Meeting Minutes

cc: National Executive Committee  
National Board of Directors  
National Delegates Assembly Chair

*One of America's Most Influential Organizations*  
**“Thank You For Thinking BIG”**

## Blacks In Government, Inc. ~ National Delegates Assembly August 20, 2017

The Honorable David Groves, Chair of the National Delegates Assembly, called the 2017 National Delegates Assembly of Blacks In Government (BIG), Inc., to order on Sunday, August 20, 2017, 9:05 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST), at the Harrah's Waterfront Hotel, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Reverend Montrez Nicholson blessed the assembly with an inspirational prayer and thanked God for His Divine intervention among Blacks In Government and its members.

Chair Honorable David Groves introduced the dais as follows: Reverend Montrez Nicholson, Region XI; Norma Samuel, National Treasurer, Region XI; Honorable Mary K. Thomas, Deputy Chair, National Delegates Assembly, Region XI; Cheryl Daniel, Transcriber; Sandra F. Glenn, National Secretary, Region IV; Precilla Wade, Special Assistant to the Chair of the National Delegates Assembly, Region VI; Honorable Ramsey Alexander, Jr., National Parliamentarian, Region XI; Honorable Darlene H. Young, Chair, National Board of Directors (NBoD), Region XI; and Honorable Dr. Doris P. Sartor, National President, Region IV.

Also, Chair Honorable David Groves introduced Honorable Gregg Reeves, Past National President, and Cheryl Massey, as the Media Committee, National Delegates Assembly Team.

**CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chair Honorable David Groves recognized Honorable Trekeshelia Britton Powell, Austin Chapter, Region VI, National Credentials Committee Chair, for the first report of the Credentials Committee.

Honorable Trekeshelia Britton Powell acknowledged the Credentials Committee's co-chairs as follows: Pinkie Mason, Region VII; Vivian Buckner, Region VII; and B. J. Parker, Region IV. Please keep Ms. Parker in prayer as she is not present this year. Then, Honorable Ms. Powell recognized the volunteers for their services to this committee.

Honorable Trekeshelia Britton Powell presented the Credentials Committee Report officially taken at 8:58 a.m. EST as follows:

REGION	AUTHORIZED	REGISTERED
Region I	8	7
Region II	30	14
Region III	24	10
Region IV	88	46
Region V	44	20
Region VI	30	14
Region VII	18	9
Region VIII	14	7
Region IX	48	12
Region X	26	11
Region XI	264	122

REGION	AUTHORIZED	REGISTERED
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>272</b>

On behalf of the Credentials Committee, Honorable Trekeshelia Britton Powell moved that the roll of delegates hereby submitted be the official roll of voting members of the 2017 National Delegates Assembly. The motion carried without objection.

**ESTABLISH QUORUM:** Chair Honorable David Groves asked the delegates to use their electronic devices, also known as “clickers,” to establish a quorum. The total count was 229 seated; thereby, Chair Honorable Mr. Groves declared that a quorum was present.

Then, Chair Honorable David Groves recognized Honorable Ramsey Alexander, Jr., VA Chapter, Region XI, National Parliamentarian, Parliamentarian of the Assembly, and Chair of the Standing Rules Committee, to read the Standing Rules of the National Delegates Assembly.

**ADOPTION OF STANDING RULES:** Honorable Ramsey Alexander, Jr., presented the 2017 Standing Rules of the National Delegates Assembly.

1. The general authority controlling the Blacks In Government National Delegates Assembly shall be the BIG National Constitution, these Standing Rules of the Delegates Assembly, and Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised Eleventh Edition.
2. The presiding official shall be responsible for maintaining order and decorum at all times to assure that the business of the organization is transacted fairly and judiciously. Only certified voting delegates shall be allowed to make motions, speak in debate, or cast a vote.
3. The Credentials Committee shall report the total number of authorized and certified voting, delegates at the opening of the Delegates Assembly. This committee shall also submit supplementary credentials reports at the beginning of each session when requested by either the presiding official or a delegate.
4. Delegates representing a simple majority of delegates or their alternates certified at the opening of the Delegates Assembly shall constitute a quorum. A majority of all certified delegates must be present to conduct business at any and all subsequent sessions. If, at any time after the assembly has been called to order and is in session, and less than a majority of the certified delegates are present, the Parliamentarian shall notify the presiding official that the body fails to have a quorum and any and all actions of the body are unofficial and non-binding on the assembly.
5. Delegates addressing the assembly, after being recognized by the presiding official, shall first state his or her name, chapter, and region.
6. Delegates (excluding the Chair of Delegates Assembly) who are sitting on the dais and not giving a report must go down on the Assembly floor to the nearest microphone to be recognized by the Assembly Chair in order to present matters he/she desire to discuss.
7. Each delegate/speaker may speak up to two (2) minutes on any issue. No delegate shall speak more than twice on any issue. No delegate shall bring more than two (2) questions to the microphone on any issue or subject. Discussion on any one issue shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes with the exception of the Treasurer’s Report, the Auditor’s Report, and the Board of Directors’ Report.

8. Upon request of the presiding official, a motion shall be submitted in writing signed by the maker of the motion and hand-carried to the Secretary of the Delegates Assembly.
9. The election of all National Officers shall be determined by a majority vote. If a majority is not obtained on the first ballot, the two candidates with the highest number of votes shall have a runoff election. The other candidates shall not appear on the ballot.
10. The election of the Nominating and Elections Committees shall be determined by a plurality vote. The Nominating and Elections Committees shall select their chairperson immediately following the adjournment of the Delegates Assembly.
11. Executive Vice-President shall present their platform within a three- (3) minute time span. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, the Corresponding Secretary, and the Treasurer for National office shall present their platform to the Delegates Assembly within a (2) minute time span.
12. The time span allotted for each speaker will be monitored with an electronic timer on a display screen that will be visible in the assembly room/hall. Each speaker is requested to stay within the allotted time or the microphone will be muted beyond the allotted time.
13. These rules require a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote by the certified delegates present and voting for adoption. These rules may also be suspended by a majority vote of the certified delegates present and voting.
14. Unless the National Constitution provides otherwise, the Assembly itself is the judge of all questions arising which are incidental to the seating of the Delegates or opening and closing the sites for Credentials and Elections.
15. All electronic devices (Blackberries, Cellular Phones, Computers with Music or Chimes, and Pagers) shall be turned off or placed on vibrate or silent while the Delegates Assembly is in session.
16. Any copies of reports or informational materials, that were distributed to the Delegates in session that need to be retrieved/or collected, shall be done by each Region's Sergeant-at-Arms.
17. Delegates are requested to abide by all of the above for order and decorum.

By committee action, Honorable Ramsey Alexander, Jr., moved for the adoption of the Standing Rules of Order for the 2017 National Delegates Assembly.

Ira Thompson, Region IV Council President, requested that a new badge for Peggy Downing be re-issued; granted without objection.

Chair Honorable David Groves declared the 2017 Standing Rules approved without objection.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** Chair Honorable David Groves presented the 2017 National Delegates Assembly Meeting Agenda for review.

Dr. Deborah McClanahan, CDC/ATSDR Chapter, Region IV, moved to approve the 2017 National Delegates Assembly Meeting Agenda as presented, and April Powers-Matthews Chapter, DIA Chapter, Region XI, seconded.

The voting results are as follows: 239 for the motion, zero (0) against the motion, two (2) abstentions; motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF THE NATIONAL DELEGATES ASSEMBLY MEETING MINUTES:**

Sandra F. Glenn, National Secretary, presented the 2016 National Delegates Assembly Meeting Minutes dated August 21, 2016. The delegates made corrections accordingly.

Kenneth Archer, CDC/ATSDR Chapter, Region IV, moved to accept the National Delegates Assembly Meeting Minutes dated August 21, 2016, with the noted corrections, and Larry H. Franklin, FMS Chapter, Region XI, seconded; motion carried.

**NATIONAL PRESIDENT/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:** President Honorable Dr. Doris P. Sartor welcomed the delegates and introduced the National Executive Committee as follows:

Dr. Contress Braxton, National Executive Vice President  
Jesse Sharpe, National First Vice President  
Dr. Matthew Fogg, National Second Vice President  
Dr. Deborah McClanahan, National Third Vice President  
Norma Samuel, National Treasurer  
Rochelle Bryant, National Assistant Treasurer  
Sandra F. Glenn, National Secretary  
Paula E. Davis, National Corresponding Secretary  
Honorable Darlene H. Young, Immediate Past President  
Honorable Oscar Eason, Jr., National AE/EEO Chair  
R. Chris Jones, National Communications and Public Relations Chair  
Dr. Ladel Lewis, National Evaluations Chair  
Yolanda Tines, National Finance Chair  
Bettie L. Hudson, National Health and Wellness Program Chair  
Ashanti Huey Patton, Esquire, National Legal Review Chair  
Ruth Benson, National Legislative Review Chair  
Peggy Wilson, National Membership Chair  
Dr. Vera McKethan, National Program and Planning Chair  
Richard Shields, National Training Chair  
Honorable C. Jacquie Beatty-Sammons, National Historian/Librarian  
Honorable Ramsey Alexander, Jr., National Parliamentarian  
Honorable David Groves, National Delegates Assembly Chair  
Cassandra Jones, National Training Institute Registration Chair  
Honorable Alma Garlington, National DYLA Coordinator  
Kathy Best, FLAG Coordinator  
Honorable Gerald R. Reed, National Presidential Advisor  
Honorable Toni Pearson, National Project BIG Vote  
Monica Hedgspeth, National Protocol Administrator  
Mazella Thomas, National Corporate Sponsorship Chair  
Christian Blackman, National NOW Generation Coordinator  
Honorable Leonard T. Stone, National Telecommunications Chair.  
Dr. Candace S.P. Williams, Military Veterans Emphasis Committee Chair  
Melvin Porter, Strategic Planning Liaison

Next, President Honorable Dr. Doris P. Sartor introduced the regional council presidents as follows:

Kathy Best, Region I Council President  
Sandrea Jackson, Region II Council President  
Charita Branch, Region III Council President  
Ira Thompson, Region IV Council President  
Patricia Thompson, Region V Council President  
Edward M. B. Ratcliffe, Region VI Council President  
Christine Wilder, Region VII Council President  
Richard Shields, Region VIII Council President  
Derrick Felton, Region IX Council President  
Dr. Charles Horne, Region X Council President  
Renee Allen, Region XI First Vice President in the absence of Marion Allen, Region XI Council President

Then, President Honorable Dr. Doris P. Sartor welcomed NBoD Chair Honorable Darlene H. Young to join her at the podium.

NBoD Chair Honorable Darlene H. Young introduced the National Board of Directors as follows:

Region I	Director Jacquelyn D. Allen and Director Daniel Corria
Region II	Director Lee Lawrence and Director Gwendolyn Townsend
Region III	Director Dr. Lynwood Townsend and Director Regina D. Kennedy (Vice Chair)
Region IV	Director Honorable Mary Peoples and Director Honorable Anthony Rhodes
Region V	Director Loretta A. Beavers and Director Deena Sheppard
Region VI	Director Honorable B. Faye Stewart and Director Katherine Cage
Region VII	Director Delores Ivy and Director Tracey C. Bradford
Region VIII	Director Audrey McCray and Director Michelle Blackmon
Region IX	Director Edna P. White and Director Sheila B. Johnson
Region X	Director Cheryl Peterson and Director Duane Hill
Region XI	Director Honorable Darlene H. Young (Chair) and Director Dr. Hezekiah Braxton III
National President	Honorable Dr. Doris P. Sartor
National Treasurer	Norma J. Samuel
National Secretary	Sandra F. Glenn
National Protocol Administrator	Reverend Montrez Nicholson
National Parliamentarian	Honorable Ramsey Alexander, Jr.

President Honorable Dr. Doris P. Sartor and NBoD Chair Honorable Darlene H. Young presented the leadership of the National Organization of Blacks In Government, Inc.

Next, President Honorable Dr. Doris P. Sartor presented the *National Executive Committee's Annual Reports to the National Delegates Assembly (January – July 2017)* and highlighted activities and initiatives accordingly.

The report was received for information only.

**NATIONAL TREASURER'S REPORT:** Ms. Norma Samuel, National Treasurer, presented the National Treasurer's Report. Ms. Samuel read the Treasurer's Statement and the Financial Condition and Future Outlook as follows:

***Treasurer's Statement:*** The purpose of this "Treasurer's Report" is to provide the Blacks In Government Delegates, National Executive Committee and National Board of Directors with an overview of the current financial position and operations of Blacks In Government (BIG). The financial statements presented herein fairly represent the BIG organization's financial position as noted and is subject to audit.

***Financial Condition and Future Outlook:*** Blacks In Government's (BIG) financial position is one that members of this organization can truly be proud of. BIG is committed to providing to its members first-class training and offering of programs targeted to assist members with work-related issues. BIG management continues to monitor income and expenses to ensure that we: 1) balance the money and the mission, 2) manage the unexpected and adapt to changing circumstances, and 3) close the fiscal year with a net profit. Membership dues, corporate and individual sponsorships income and training institute income continue to be BIG's primary sources of revenue. It is crucial that we as an organization look for additional revenue streams while reducing spending where possible without adversely affecting services to our members. With prudent management, Blacks In Government's future outlook appears to be positive.

Next, Ms. Norma Samuel presented the Statement of Financial Position Year-End 2014, 2015, and 2016 Audited; Flash Report dated August 10, 2017; the Summary Income Statement (Un-audited) dated July 2017; and the Comparison of Key Items.

April Powers-Matthews, DIA Chapter, Region XI, moved to accept the National Treasurer's Report with any possible said changes, and Lenora Grable-Grant, West Point Chapter, Region II, seconded. The body discussed the report accordingly

Denna Sheppard, New Kemet Harambe Chapter, Region V, moved to amend the motion to include "subject to audit," and Alice Mercer, East Central Savannah River Chapter, seconded.

The voting results are as follows: 264 for the amended motion, two (2) against the amended motion, and six (6) abstentions; amended motion carried.

The body cast their votes with the clickers on the main motion as amended, and the results were as follows: two hundred sixty-two (262) for the motion, four (4) against the motion, and eight (8) abstention; the motion carried.

**Chair Honorable David Groves recessed the body at 10:33 a.m. EST.**

**The meeting reconvened at 10:59 p.m. EST.**

Chair Honorable David Groves **established a quorum** with 272 delegates registered and 229 delegates seated.

**NOTE:** Chair Honorable David Groves passed the gavel to Deputy Chair Honorable Mary K. Thomas to preside.

**NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT:** Honorable Darlene H. Young, Chair, National Board of Directors, greeted the delegates and presented the *National Board of Directors' Annual Report to the National Delegates Assembly, August 2017* and highlighted the committees' accomplishments and activities accordingly.

NBoD Chair Honorable Darlene H. Young moved by committee action for the ratification of the following chapters' charters revocation:

Region III: Central Virginia Chapter—Failure to remain financial for three (3) consecutive years.

Region VI: Houston VAMC Chapter—Failure to meet the financial reporting requirements for at least two (2) consecutive years, non-compliance with payment of regional dues for at least two (2) consecutive years, and maintaining less than 10 members for at least two (2) consecutive years.

Motion carried without objection.

Next, NBoD Chair Honorable Darlene H. Young presented the new chapter charters to the following chapters: South Shore Connectors, Region II, and North East Liberty Chapter, Region III.

Deputy Chair Honorable Mary K. Thomas prepared the delegates to vote on the *National Board of Directors' Annual Report to the National Delegates Assembly, August 2017*. The voting results were 247 for the motion, one (1) against the motion, and two (2) abstentions; motion carried.

**AUDIT REPORT:** Director Duane Hill, Region X, Financial Advisory and Oversight Committee (FAOC) Chair, presented the Audit Report and recognized the FAOC members for their hard work and dedication. The audit was clean without findings.

Lenora Grable-Grant, West Point Chapter, Region II, inquired if the organization was on target to meet the \$1.2 million revenue for the training as in 2016. National Treasurer Norma Samuel replied that the organization was on target; to date, there are 983 registrants for the training with an expectation of approximately 200-300 onsite registrants.

Honorable Gary Blackmon, Denver Center Complex Chapter, Region VIII, moved to accept the Audit Report as presented, and Dr. Matthew Fogg, Heritage Chapter, Region XI, National Second Vice President, seconded. The voting results were 261 for the motion, one (1) against, and five (5) abstentions; motion carried.

**ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS:** Director Sheila Johnson greeted the delegates and introduced her committee members. Then, Director Ms. Johnson stated there were two (2) constitutional amendments and presented as follows:

1. Article VIII, Section 1B, Nominations and Elections

Proposed Change: Add the word "process" at the end of the title; "Nomination and Elections Process."

Revise paragraph B to read: "B. Election Process. The National Delegates Assembly Team (NDAT) will coordinate the election process and shall include the establishment of appropriate machinery, provisions, and procedures for conducting any National election. An NDAT Committee member shall not monitor the election process of his/her region."



By committee action, Director Sheila Johnson moved to adopt the proposed constitutional amendment.

Glynis M. Hill, EPA Chapter, Region XI moved to amend the motion and delete the word “machinery” and insert the word “technology.”

Rationale: As defined by Wester’s Dictionary, technology is machinery and equipment developed from the application of scientific knowledge.

Deena Sheppard, New Kemet Harambe Chapter, Region V, seconded the amendment motion.

The results of the proposed amended motion were 272 for the amended motion, eight (8) against the amended motion, and three (3) abstentions; motion carried.

The body voted on the main motion as amended as follows:

Revise paragraph B to read: “B. Election Process. The National Delegates Assembly Team (NDAT) will coordinate the election process and shall include the establishment of appropriate technology, provisions, and procedures for conducting any National election. An NDAT Committee member shall not monitor the election process of his/her region.”

The results of the vote on the main motion as amended were 253 for the motion, 18 against the motion, and five (5) abstentions; motion carried.

2. Article VI: Duties of National Elected Officers, Appointed Positions, Committees, and Staff, Section 4. Standing Committees

Proposed Change: Delete entire paragraph F. (9) Affirmative Action and insert new paragraph.

F. (9) Affirmative Employment/Equal Employment Opportunity. The Affirmative Employment/EEO Committee shall monitor and develop programs to address areas of concern of Black government employees including rates of hiring and firing; promotions; training; details; distribution of authority and responsibility; adverse actions; awards; merit pay; disciplinary actions; will also monitor all issues/matters referring to affirmative action and work assist in developing BIG’s position on any legislation or regulations impacting on advancement and employment opportunities of Blacks In Government.

By committee action, Director Sheila Johnson moved to adopt this proposed constitutional amendment.

The body discussed the proposed constitutional amendment.

Glenn D. Smith, Jr., Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Chapter, Region III, moved to amend the motion to insert “unlawful” before “employment discrimination” throughout the document; it will read “unlawful employment discrimination.” Dr. Matthew Fogg, Heritage Chapter, Region XI, seconded the motion.

The body discussed the proposed amendment motion.

The results of the vote on the amended motion were 174 for the amended motion, 84 against the amended motion, and 22 abstentions; motion failed.

The body voted on the proposed constitutional amendment as presented. The results of vote on the original proposed constitutional amendment were 225 for the motion, 45 against the motion, and 22 abstentions; motion carried.

**NOTE:** Deputy Chair Honorable Mary K. Thomas passed the gavel to Chair Honorable David Groves to preside.

Chair Honorable David Groves emphasized that regions will not vote on members for the election and nominating committees but will vote on the top three (3) names for an election's process; this is a result of the adopted constitutional amendment.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:** Kathy Best, Nominating Committee Chair, greeted the body and introduced the committee members accordingly. Then, Ms. Best presented the report as follows:

The offices open for nominations are:

- National Executive Vice President (Incumbent is eligible for re-nomination.)
- National Second Vice President (Incumbent is eligible for re-nomination.)
- National Treasurer (Incumbent is eligible for re-nomination.)
- National Corresponding Secretary (Incumbent is eligible for re-nomination.)

The committee received nominations and certifications from the following members; the nominees were certified by the BIG National Office and financial officers for the following offices:

**National Executive Vice President**

- Dr. Contress Braxton, Region XI
- Shirley A. Jones, Esquire, Region XI

**National Second Vice President**

- Dr. Matthew Fogg, Region XI
- Honorable B. Faye Stewart, VI

**National Treasurer**

- Norma J. Samuel, Region XI

**National Corresponding Secretary**

- Paula E. Davis, Region XI

These nominees are currently financial, a member in good standing, and have been a member of Blacks In Government for at least three years and have been elected at either the chapter, regional, or national level for at least one term per the National BIG Constitution, Article VIII, Section 1 (d) (2).

Then, Chair Honorable David Groves opened the floor nominations for each respective position as follows:

### **National Executive Vice President**

No other nominations were received; nominations closed on the names of Dr. Contress Braxton (Region XI), and Shirley A. Jones, Esquire. (Region XI).

### **National Second Vice President**

R. Chris Jones, GAO Chapter, Region XI, nominated Marie Perry, Region XI.

Chair Honorable David Groves closed the nominations on the names of Dr. Matthew Fogg (Region XI), Honorable B. Faye Stewart (Region XI), and Marie Perry (Region XI).

### **National Treasurer**

No other nominations were received.

Chair Honorable David Groves closed the nominations on the name of Norma J. Samuel (Region XI).

### **National Corresponding Secretary**

No other nominations were received.

Chair Honorable David Groves closed the nominations on the name of Paula E. Davis (Region XI).

**NOMINEES' PLATFORMS:** Each nominee presented a platform and accepted the nomination for the respective position accordingly.

Without objection, Chair Honorable David Groves requested Sandra F. Glenn, National Secretary, to cast one vote for Norma J. Samuel, National Treasurer re-elect, and Ms. Paula E. Davis, National Corresponding Secretary re-elect. As requested, Ms. Glenn cast one vote for Norma J. Samuel, National Treasurer re-elect, and Paula E. Davis, National Corresponding Secretary re-elect.

**REGIONAL CAUCUS:** Chair Honorable David Groves prepared the assembly for the regional caucuses and provided the rooms' assignment for each region.

**Chair Honorable David Groves recessed the body at 12:25 p.m. EST.**

**The meeting reconvened at 2:16 p.m. EST.**

**REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE:** Chair Honorable David Groves recognized Honorable Trekeshelia Britton Powell, Austin Chapter, Region VI, National Credentials Committee Chair, for the report of the Credentials Committee.

Honorable Trekeshelia Britton Powell presented the Credentials Committee Report officially taken at 1:55 p.m.

<b>REGION</b>	<b>AUTHORIZED</b>	<b>REGISTERED</b>
Region I	8	7
Region II	32	22
Region III	26	18
Region IV	88	48

REGION	AUTHORIZED	REGISTERED
Region V	44	24
Region VI	30	19
Region VII	18	10
Region VIII	14	9
Region IX	48	14
Region X	26	11
Region XI	264	15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>339</b>

On behalf of the Credentials Committee, Trekeshelia Britton Powell moved that the roll of delegates hereby submitted be the official roll of voting members of the 2017 National Delegates Assembly. The motion carried without objection.

Chair Honorable David Groves asked the delegates to use their electronic devices, also known as “clickers,” to establish a quorum. The total count was 310; thereby, Chair Honorable David Groves declared that a quorum was present.

Then, Chair Honorable David Groves stated that credentials will be closed before the *Good of the Order;*” granted without objection.

**ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS:** Chair Honorable David Groves prepared the delegates for voting on the respective nominees; he provided the instructions on how to use the clickers to cast a vote for the desired nominee and conducted the elections as follows:

**National Executive Vice President—325 votes cast**

Dr. Contress Braxton, Region XI: 153 votes received

Shirley A. Jones, Esq., Region XI: 172 votes received

Chair Honorable David Groves declared Shirley A. Jones, Esquire, as National Executive Vice President-elect.

**National Second Vice President—324 votes cast**

Dr. Matthew Fogg, Region XI: 136 votes received

Marie Perry, Region XI: 50 votes received

Honorable B. Faye Stewart, Region VI: 138 votes received

Chair Honorable David Groves declared a run-off election between Dr. Matthew Fogg and Honorable B. Faye Stewart.

**National Second Vice President—325 votes cast**

Dr. Matthew Fogg, Region XI: 176 votes received

Honorable B. Faye Stewart, Region VI: 149 votes received

Chair Honorable David Groves declared Dr. Matthew Fogg re-elected as National Second Vice President.

**Distinguished Service Hall of Fame**

1. Philip B. Atwell received 200 votes
2. Dr. Hezekiah Braxton III received 228 votes
3. Diana S. Davis received 79 votes
4. Norma J. Samuel received 253 votes
5. Daniel E. "Danny" Thomas received 139 votes
6. Johnny Ware received 111 votes
7. Mary J. East Watkins received 157 votes

Chair Honorable David Groves declared Norma J. Samuel, Dr. Hezekiah Braxton III, and Philip B. Atwell inducted as Distinguished Service Hall of Fame recipients.

Then, Chair Honorable David Groves called for a vote of the regional officers from each region.

<b>Region I</b>	
<b>Regional Director</b> Number of votes cast—7	Daniel Corria received 7
<b>National Election Process</b> Number of votes cast—7	Kathy K. Best received 7 Atricia L. Irons received 7 Amanda Merricks received 7
Chair Honorable David Groves declared Daniel Corria elected as Region I Director, and Kathy K. Best, Atricia L. Irons, and Amanda Merricks elected for the National Election Process.	
<b>Region II</b>	
<b>Regional Director</b> Number of votes cast—21	Esther P. Seabrook received 21
<b>National Election Process</b> Number of votes cast—20	Carrol Belloni received 19 Doris Chamberlain received 9 Flexton Gardner received 17 Denise McRae received 13
Chair Honorable David Groves declared Esther P. Seabrook elected as Region II Director, and Carrol Belloni, Flexton Gardner, and Denise McRae elected for the National Election Process.	
<b>Region III</b>	
<b>Regional Director</b> Number of votes cast—15	Dr. Lynwood A. Townsend received 15
<b>National Election Process</b> Number of votes cast—14	Myrle Sampson received 14 Glenn Smith, Jr., received 14 Michael Upshaw received 14
Chair Honorable David Groves declared Dr. Lynwood A. Townsend elected as Region III Director, and Myrle Sampson, Glenn Smith, Jr., and Michael Upshaw elected for the National Election Process.	
<b>Region IV</b>	
<b>Regional Director</b> Number of votes cast—45	Honorable Anthony Rhodes received 45

<p><b>National Election Process</b> Number of votes cast—45</p>	<p>Ruth D. Benson received 18 Cardell B. Hunt received 28 Samuel Manning received 28 Annette B. Rice received 25 Antoinette Waits received 18</p>
<p>Chair Honorable David Groves declared Honorable Anthony Rhodes elected as Region IV Director, and Cardell B. Hunt, Samuel Manning, and Annette B. Rice elected for the National Election Process.</p>	
<p><b>Region V</b></p>	
<p><b>Regional Director</b> Number of votes cast—23</p>	<p>Honorable Lillian Barnett received 23</p>
<p><b>National Election Process</b> Number of votes cast—23</p>	<p>Roland D. Beavers received 19 Adrienne M. Callahan received 16 Maria Miah received 13 Courtney Speed received 10 James F. Travis, Jr., received 9</p>
<p>Chair Honorable David Groves declared Honorable Lillian Barnett elected as Region V Director, and Roland D. Beavers, Adrienne M. Callahan, and Maria Miah elected for the National Election Process.</p>	
<p><b>Region VI</b></p>	
<p><b>Regional Director</b> Number of votes cast—16</p>	<p>Katherine Cage received 16</p>
<p><b>National Election Process</b> Number of votes cast—18</p>	<p>Latischa M. Hanson received 17 Gwenda J. Lowe received 16 Christine Smith received 18</p>
<p>Chair Honorable David Groves declared Katherine Cage elected as Region VI Director, and Latischa M. Hanson, Gwenda J. Lowe, and Christine Smith elected for the National Election Process.</p>	
<p><b>Region VII</b></p>	
<p><b>Regional Director</b> Number of votes cast—7</p>	<p>Delores Ivy received 7</p>
<p><b>National Election Process</b> Number of votes cast—8</p>	<p>Tandra M. Brooks received 8 Robin W. McDaniel-Beck received 8 John A. Gandy received 7</p>
<p>Chair Honorable David Groves declared Delores Ivy elected as Region VII Director, and Tandra M. Brooks, Robin W. McDaniel-Beck, and John A. Gandy elected for the National Election Process.</p>	
<p><b>Region VIII</b></p>	
<p><b>Regional Director</b> Number of votes cast—9</p>	<p>Gary Blackmon received 9</p>
<p><b>National Election Process</b> Number of votes cast—9</p>	<p>Johnny Barideaux received 9 Heidi Casteel Ellis received 3 Velma L. Parker received 9 Phadrea Ponds received 6</p>
<p>Chair Honorable David Groves declared Honorable Gary Blackmon elected as Region VIII Director, and Johnny Barideaux, Velma L. Parker, and Phadrea Ponds elected for the National Election Process.</p>	

<b>Region IX</b>	
<b>Regional Director</b> Number of votes cast—12	Kenneth C. Pearson received 12
<b>National Election Process</b> Number of votes cast—13	Dinah R. Goodspeed received 13 Donna L. Thomason received 13 Georgie Willis received 13
Chair Honorable David Groves declared Kenneth C. Pearson elected as Region IX Director, and Dinah R. Goodspeed, Donna L. Thomason, and Georgie Willis elected for the National Election Process.	
<b>Region X</b>	
<b>Regional Director</b> Number of votes cast—10	Kemmie Conway received 2 Patricia B. Ly received 5 Delmass Whittaker received 3
<b>Regional Director</b> <b>Runoff:</b> Number of votes cast—11	Patricia B. Ly received 6 Delmass Whittaker received 5
<b>National Election Process</b> Number of votes cast—11	Anthony Barnes received 4 LaCretiah Claytor received 8 Shayla Fortin received 4 Duane Hill received 8 Kenneth Lyles received 7
Chair Honorable David Groves declared Patricia B. Ly elected as Region X Director, and LaCretiah Claytor, Duane Hill, and Kenneth Lyles elected for the National Election Process.	
<b>Region XI</b>	
<b>Regional Director</b> Number of votes cast—145	Janie L. Ealey received 18 Glynis M. Hill received 105 Rohan Chris Jones received 22
<b>National Election Process</b> Number of votes cast—143	Brenda Agunyego received 46 Simone Dedrick received 25 Melinda Deloatch-Speight received 81 Loretta Johnson received 45 April Powers-Matthews received 82 Michael McCrimmon received 84 Renita Nowlin received 22 Fawntrella Thompson received 39
Chair Honorable David Groves declared Glynis M. Hill elected as Region XI Director, and Michael McCrimmon, Melinda Deloatch-Speight, and April Powers-Matthews elected for the National Election Process.	

Chair Honorable David Groves recognized Shirley A. Jones, Esquire, National Executive Vice President-elect; Dr. Matthew Fogg, National Second Vice President re-elect; and Honorable Norma Samuel, National Treasurer re-elect to provide remarks.

**RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT:** Dr. Ethel Crisp, Resolution Committee Chair, greeted the assembly and introduced the committee's members. Dr. Crisp presented two proposed resolutions as follows:

1. BIG Endorses D.C. Council Bill 22-0044, Additional Tax Relief for Seniors, Restoration of D.C. Pension Tax Benefit for 40,000 Retired Federal Workers, D.C. Government Employees, Teachers, Police, Firefighters and Veterans

“Therefore, be it resolved, in furtherance of its advocacy mission, BIG endorses and supports B 22-0044. That the National President of Blacks In Government will write letters to all members of the D.C. City Council and the Honorable Muriel Bowser, Mayor of the District of Columbia, urging immediate passage of B 22-0044 and its full funding in the next budget cycle.”

Committee’s Recommended Changes:

- Delete “endorses and” from the sentence, “In furtherance of its advocacy mission BIG endorses and supports B 22-0044.”
- Delete “Endorses” from the title and replace “Support.”

By committee action, Dr. Ethel Crisp moved to adopt the proposed resolution [*BIG Supports D.C. Council Bill 22-0044, Additional Tax Relief for Seniors, Restoration of D.C. Pension Tax Benefit for 40,000 Retired Federal Workers, D.C. Government Employees, Teachers, Police, Firefighters and Veterans*] with the noted edits; motion carried without objection.

2. BIG Supports the H.R. 1498 – “End Racial Profiling Act of 2017” Sponsored by the Honorable John Conyers and Co-Sponsored by Seventy-Three (73) Members of the United States House of Representatives

“Therefore, be it resolved, in furtherance of its advocacy mission, BIG endorses H.R. 1498 - End Racial Profiling Act of 2017. Legislative Bill > <http://tinyurl.com/yalw6kgm>

(1) That the National President of Blacks In Government will write a letter to the Honorable John Conyers, House of Representatives Judiciary Committee; thanking him for sponsoring this legislation and asking Conyers to notify the 73 Congressional Supporters that BIG has endorsed H.R. 1498,

(2) Write the President of the United States asking him to support H.R. 1498,

(3) Write the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives asking him to support H.R. 1498,

(4) Write the Chairman of the U.S. Senate asking him to support H.R. 1498 in the Senate version, and

(5) The BIG National President will create a committee to specifically report on Federal, State & Local police matters that create hostility towards Black Americans.

By committee action, Dr. Ethel Crisp moved to not to adopt this resolution as it violates the National BIG Constitution.

Because the proposed resolution violates the National BIG Constitution, Chair Honorable David Groves ruled the resolution out of order.

Dr. Matthew Fogg, Heritage Chapter, Region XI, requested to amend the resolution as the author. Chair Honorable David Groves responded that the submitted resolution has been ruled out of order unless the body overrides and challenges the ruling of the chair.

Dr. Matthew Fogg, Heritage Chapter, Region XI, challenged the ruling of the chair, and Jesse Sharpe, Education Chapter, Region XI, seconded.

The results of the voting were 182 for the ruling of the chair, 101 against the ruling of the chair, and 13 abstentions; motion carried. [The Chair’s decision to rule out of order is in order.]



**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

President Honorable Dr. Doris P. Sartor offered a standing ovation for Chair Honorable David Groves for his outstanding leadership of the National Delegates Assembly. The business has been conducted timely, and this is first time ever in the BIG's history that the business will conclude this early [time is 3:27 p.m. EST].

Honorable J. David Reeves, Robert C. Weaver Chapter, Region XI, and Past National President, stated he has been silent during the assembly but wants all to know that he is present.

Honorable Dr. Hezekiah Braxton III, BIG Pentagon Chapter, Region XI, thanked Chair Honorable David Groves for a great assembly and thanked the body for his election to the Distinguished Service Hall of Fame. Then, Honorable Dr. Braxton III challenged each chapter to adopt a school to support with school supplies, clothing drives, and so forth.

Tillman M. Peck, NOAA Chapter, Region XI, informed the assembly of Mr. Dick Gregory's demise.

Calvin Stevens, Atlanta Metropolitan Chapter, Region IV, thanked all for their outpouring love and support during his sister's demise.

Amanda Merrick, Greater Boston Chapter, Region I, acknowledged that this was her first time attending the National Delegates Assembly and the National Training Institute. Ms. Merrick stated, "I'm very impressed, and I'm very empowered, and I'm glad to be here. And I hope to be here next year."

Honorable Toni Pearson, Sacramento Metropolitan Chapter, Region IX, thanked Honorable David Groves for conducting a great meeting, and that Honorable Mr. Thomas Walton would be proud of the accomplishments.

Deputy Chair Honorable Mary Thomas informed the body of Mr. Johnny Ware's demise and acknowledged how much Mr. Ware support the Credentials Committee.

Jay Pontelle Salem, CDC/ATSDR Chapter, Region IV, acknowledged that this was his first time attending the National Delegates Assembly and the National Training Institute. Mr. Salem stated, "I would like to say thank you for the opportunity and thank you for my chapter; and I look forward to learning and I appreciate being a part of this chapter."

Chair Honorable David Groves introduced the National Delegates Assembly Team and thanked them for their hard work. Also, Chair Honorable Mr. Groves thanked Cynthia Hickman and Joanne Farmer for serving as the card monitors.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Johnny Barideaux, Mile High Chapter, Region VIII, moved to adjourn the 2017 National Delegates Assembly, and Eddie Lee Key, R. H. Brown Chapter, Region XI, seconded; motion carried.

The National Delegates Assembly adjourned on Sunday, August 20, 2017, at 3:40 p.m. EST.

Respectfully Submitted,

**MS. SANDRA F. GLENN**

National Secretary

**THE HONORABLE MR. DAVID GROVES**

Chair, National Delegates Assembly